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08/876,839	06/16/97	HOLT	S 192600780

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EXAMINER

TIEU, B

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2742

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Office Action Summary

Application No.

08/876,839

Applicant(s)

Holt et al

Examiner

Benny Quoc Tieu

Group Art Unit

2742



☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on Jun 16, 1997 and IDS filed 9/2/97

☐ This action is **FINAL**.

☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire 3 month(s), or thirty days, whichever is longer, from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to respond within the period for response will cause the application to become abandoned. (35 U.S.C. § 133). Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Disposition of Claims

☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are pending in the application.

Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are rejected.

☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

Application Papers

☐ See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.

☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on _____ is ☐ approved ☐ disapproved.

☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

☐ All ☐ Some* ☐ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been

☐ received.

☐ received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) _____.

☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*Certified copies not received: _____

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

☒ Notice of References Cited, PTO-892

☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). 2

☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413

☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948

☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152

--- SEE OFFICE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES ---

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DETAILED ACTION

Drawings

1. This application has been filed with informal drawings which are acceptable for examination purposes only. Formal drawings will be required when the application is allowed.

Claim Objections

2. Claims 11 and 14-16 are objected to because of the following informalities: CLID and DTMF stand for "calling line identification" and "dual tone multi-frequency" should be stated in the claims. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

3. Claims 11-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.
4. Claim 11 recites the limitation "said interface device" in line 12. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim. It is not clear that "said interface device" is a "receiving interface device" or a "transmitting interface device".
5. Claim 12 is rejected because it depends from rejected claim 11.

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Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

6. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

7. Claims 1-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Brennan et al (U.S. Patent No. 5,329,578).

Regarding claim 1, Brennan et al teaches a method for routing a call based on the identity of an originating source of the call, comprising the steps of: maintaining a plurality of routing lists (Fig. 1b, Profile subs.1 through X), each routing lists being associated with at least one originating source (Fig. 1b, 26) and comprising a plurality of directory numbers (Fig. 1b, 27); receiving the call from the originating source (Fig. 2a, 101); selecting a routing list associated with the originating source from the plurality of routing lists (Fig.2a, 103); and directing the call according to the routing list (Fig. 2a, 104).

Regarding claims 2 and 4, Brennan et al further teaches the method wherein the selecting a routing list step comprising the steps of: detecting a directory number of the originating source (column 10, line 55); retrieving an associated routing list for the directory number (column 5, lines 1-59); and retrieving a default routing list if the associated routing list does not exist (it should be noticed that the default routing list is to route the caller to voice mail).

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Regarding claim 3, Brennan et al further teaches the method wherein the selecting a routing list step further comprises the steps of: requesting the originating source to provide an identification code (Fig. 2b, 203); receiving the identification code; retrieving an associated routing list for the identification code (Fig. 2b, 204); and retrieving a default routing list of the associated routing list does not exist (it should be noticed that the default routing list is route the caller to voice mail).

Regarding claims 5-7, the limitations of the claims are rejected for the same reasons as set forth in rejection of claims 1-3 above.

Regarding claims 8-10, Brennan et al further teaches the method wherein the selecting a routing list step further comprises the step of selecting the routing list from a group of routing lists identified for the originating party based on the day of the week or/and the time of the day the communication is received (Tables 3.0 and 4.0).

Regarding claim 11, the limitations of the claim are rejected for the same reasons as set forth in claims 1 and 2 above. In addition, Brennan et al teaches a system for routing calls for a personal number subscriber based on the calling line identification (CLID) of an originator, comprising: a processing unit (Fig. 1b, 21); a memory storage device (Fig. 1b, 24) operative to store a plurality of routing lists for the personal number subscriber, each routing list comprising a plurality of directory numbers (Fig. 1b, 27); a receiving interface device and a transmitting interface device coupled to the processing unit for receiving calls and placing calls, respectively (Fig. 1a, 11); and the processing unit being operative to: receive a call (Fig. 1a, 14) on the

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receiving interface device (Fig. 1a, 11), the call being directed to the personal number subscriber (Fig. 1a, 10).

Regarding claim 12, Brennan et al further teaches the system wherein the processing unit directs the call setup request by: selecting a first directory number from the routing list; routing the call to the first directory number; receiving communication disposition information from the first directory number; and if the communication disposition indicates the routing step failed, selecting a next directory number from the routing list and repeating above steps at the next directory number (column 10, lines 7-23).

Regarding claim 13, Brennan et al teaches a computer-readable medium on which is stored a computer program for selecting a routing list based on an identifying criteria, and a data file containing a plurality of routing lists for a called party, the computer program comprising instructions which, when executed by a computer, perform the steps of: receiving a communication for the called party; obtaining the identifying criteria; retrieving a routing list from the data file based on the identifying criteria; and directing the communication in accordance with the routing list (Fig. 2a).

Regarding claim 14, Brennan et al further teaches the computer-readable medium wherein the identifying criteria comprises a CLID message (Fig. 2a, 103) and the step of obtaining an identifying criteria further comprises receiving the CLID message (it should be noticed that CLID message is received so that step of determining can be performed).

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Regarding claim 15, Brennan et al further teaches the computer-readable medium wherein the identifying criteria comprises a DTMF code sequence (such as caller identification password) and the step of obtaining an identifying criteria further comprises detecting the DTMF code sequences (such as validate password).

Regarding claim 16, Brennan et al further teaches the computer-readable medium wherein the identifying criteria comprises a DTMF code sequence (such as caller identification password) and the step of obtaining an identifying criteria further comprises the steps of: providing keypad menu selection options to the called party; and receiving a DTMF signal corresponding to a keypad menu selection from the called party (Fig. 5).

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Conclusion

8. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Bannister et al (U.S. Patent No. 5,548,636) teaches a method and apparatus for providing user controlled call management services. Fleischer, III et al (U.S. Patent No. 5,592,541) teaches an apparatus and method for forwarding incoming calls. Eisdorfer et al (U.S. Patent No. 5,724,411) teaches a method for selectively alerting multiple telephones of incoming call.

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to **BENNY Q. TIEU** whose telephone number is **(703) 305-2360**. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 7:00AM to 5:30PM.

The fax number for this Group is (703) 308-9051.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-4700.

Patent Examiner: BENNY QUOC TIEU

Benny Tieu

Date: December 28, 1998.

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Harry S. Hong

**HARRY S. HONG
PRIMARY EXAMINER**